United Nations A/61/739–S/2007/74

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
9 February 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 27
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 9 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 9 February 2007 regarding Security Council resolution 1716 (2006) dated 13 October 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Irakli **Chikovani**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-23428 (E) 120207

Annex to the identical letters dated 9 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

With reference to the report by the Secretary-General of 11 January 2007 (S/2007/15), the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia reiterates that, as a responsible State and a member of the international community, Georgia strictly follows the requirements of Security Council resolution 1716 (2006) of 13 October 2006 regarding the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia, in particular with respect to the Kodori Valley (Upper Abkhazia).

The aforementioned is confirmed by the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), which carried out two patrols of the Valley — in October and December 2006. The resumption of patrols has become possible following the Georgian police operation in the Valley aimed at restoring law and order there. It is worth mentioning that, according to a series of Security Council resolutions, the Georgian side was obliged to ensure necessary security conditions on this territory to allow for such patrolling.

According to the UNOMIG statements, only the presence of Georgian policemen was detected in the Kodori Valley. It should be stressed that the number of law enforcement personnel deployed there is gradually decreasing (from 550 to 270) and only the staff necessary to maintain law and order and ensure security conditions for the population of the region are present.

In conformity with the UNOMIG statement issued on 22 December 2006, the patrol did not observe any deployment of heavy weapons. In addition, United Nations military observers personally witnessed the destruction of weapons and ammunition seized as a result of police operations in the Kodori Valley (Upper Abkhazia).

The Georgian side reaffirms its readiness to continue cooperation with UNOMIG and other actors involved in the peace process in order to achieve a political resolution of the conflict on the basis of the principle of Georgia's territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.